Docket No.

202593US0

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

SERIAL NO: 09/784,057

FILED:

February 16, 2001

FOR:

GRAFTED POLYMER ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE, METHOD OF PRODUCING A GRAFTED POLYMER

ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE, AND FUEL CELL COMPRISING THE SAME

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment w/Marked-Up Copy in the above-identified application.

TC 1700

- No additional fee is required
- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.
- Additional documents filed herewith: Copy of PTO 1449 (as filed 02/16/01); Copy of JP 9-102322

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS		RATE		CALCULATIONS
TOTAL	10	MINUS	23	0	х	\$18	=	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	1	MINUS	3	0	х	\$84	=	\$0.00
		☐ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS + \$				\$280	=	\$0.00
	TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATION				ONS	\$0.00		
☐ Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity					\$0.00			
						=	\$0.00	
					1	TO	ΓAL	\$0.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of **§0.00** is attached.
- Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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DOCKET NO.: 202593US0

12H 94 4/18/03

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

N RE APPLICATION OF

MICHIO ASUKABE, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: PADGETT, M.

SERIAL NO: 09/784,057

FILED: FEBRUARY 16, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1762

FOR:

GRAFTED POLYMER ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE, METHOD OF PRODUCING

A GRAFTED POLYMER ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE, AND FUEL CELL

COMPRISING THE SAME

**AMENDMENT** 

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

TC 1700

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 17, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following amendment and remarks:

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claims 1-12, 14 and 21-23. Please amend Claims 13 and 15 as follows:

13. (Amended) A method of producing an electrolyte membrane comprising:

providing a precursor membrane comprising a polymer which is capable of being graft polymerized;

exposing the surface of the precursor membrane to a plasma in an oxidative atmosphere to generate a surface carbonyl group, a surface hydroxyl group, or a surface carbonyl group and a surface hydroxyl group;

graft-polymerizing a side chain polymer to the plasma treated precursor membrane; and